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APPLICATION

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FOR UNITED STATES LETTERS PATENT

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SPECIFICATION

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TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

BE IT KNOWN THAT I, JEFFREY L. SAMUELS, a citizen of
25 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, have invented a new and useful TRUCK
CANOPY LIFTING ASSEMBLY of which the following is a specification:

TRUCK CANOPY LIFTING ASSEMBLY

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

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The present invention relates to truck cap lifting devices and more particularly pertains to a new truck cap lifting device for selectively lifting and lowering pick-up truck cap.

15 Description of the Prior Art

The use of truck cap lifting devices is known in the prior art. While these devices fulfill their respective, particular objectives and requirements, the need remains for a device that is more stable and 20 previous designs while also allowing varying sizes of truck caps.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention meets the needs presented above by including 25 elongated members which are held by a lifting assembly. A truck cap may be positioned on the elongated members and then lifted or lowered by the lifting assembly.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a new cap 30 lifting device that includes support panels which are selectively adjustable for accommodating variously sized truck caps. The support panels are

positioned on the elongated members and have a greater width than the elongated member for providing greater stability for the truck cap.

To this end, the present invention generally comprises a first
5 elongated member and a second elongated member each having a first end,
a second end, a top side, a bottom side, and a pair of lateral side edges. A
lifting assembly is attached to each of the first and second elongated
members such that the first and second elongated members may be
selectively lifted or lowered. The lifting assembly supports the first and
10 second elongated members such that the elongated members are spaced
from each other and are orientated parallel to each other. Wherein a truck
cap may be positioned on the elongated members and selectively raised or
lowered by the lifting assembly.

15 There has thus been outlined, rather broadly, the more important
features of the invention in order that the detailed description thereof that
follows may be better understood, and in order that the present
contribution to the art may be better appreciated. There are additional
features of the invention that will be described hereinafter and which will
20 form the subject matter of the claims appended hereto.

The objects of the invention, along with the various features of
novelty which characterize the invention, are pointed out with particularity
in the claims annexed to and forming a part of this disclosure.

25 **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

The invention will be better understood and objects other than those
set forth above will become apparent when consideration is given to the
30 following detailed description thereof. Such description makes reference
to the annexed drawings wherein:

Figure 1 is a schematic side perspective view of a truck cap lifting assembly according to the present invention.

Figure 2 is a schematic side perspective view of the present
5 invention.

Figure 3 is a schematic cross-sectional view of an elongated member of the present invention.

10 Figure 4 is a schematic top view of an elongated member of the present invention.

Figure 5 is a schematic front view a winch of the present invention.

15 Figure 6 is a schematic bottom view a winch mounting of the present invention.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

20 With reference now to the drawings, and in particular to Figures 1 through 6 thereof, a new truck cap lifting device embodying the principles and concepts of the present invention and generally designated by the reference numeral 10 will be described.

25 As best illustrated in Figures 1 through 6, the truck cap lifting assembly 10 generally comprises a first elongated member 12 and a second elongated member 14 each having a first end 15, a second end 16, a top side 17, a bottom side 18, and a pair of lateral side edges 19. The top sides 17 each have a pair of elongated slots 20 therein. The slots 20 in
30 each of the first 12 and second 14 elongated members are spaced from each other and each of the slots 20 extends along a longitudinal axis of the first 12 and second 14 elongated members. Each of the slots 20 is positioned adjacent to one of the first 15 and second 16 ends.

A plurality of support panels 22 is provided. Each of the support panels 22 has an upper surface 24 and a lower surface 25. Each of a plurality of securing members 26 secures each of the lower surfaces 25 to one of the top sides 17 such that each of the elongated members 12, 14 has two panels 22 attached thereto. Each of the panels 22 has a width greater than a width of the elongated members 12, 14 such that each of panels 22 extends beyond each of the lateral sides 19 of an attached one of elongated members 12, 14. The securing members 26 each include a post attached to one of the lower surfaces 25 and extending into one of the slots 20. The posts, or securing members 25, are selectively positionable along a length of an associated one of the slots 20 so that the panels 22 may be positioned depending upon a width of the truck cap 8.

A lifting assembly 30 is attached to each of the first 12 and second 14 elongated members such that the first 12 and second 14 elongated members may be selectively lifted or lowered. The lifting assembly 30 supports each of the first 12 and second 14 elongated members such that the elongated members 12, 14 are spaced from each other and are orientated parallel to each other. The lifting assembly 30 includes four first pulleys 32. Two of the first pulleys 32 are attached to each one of the first 12 and second 14 elongated members and is positioned adjacent to one of the first 15 and second 16 ends. Each of the first pulleys 32 has a rotational axis orientated substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the first 12 and second 14 elongated members. Each of four second pulleys 34 is attached to a ceiling surface 9, such as in a garage. The second pulleys 34 are spaced from each other and generally configured in a rectangular shape or pattern upon the ceiling 9 such that each of second pulleys 34 is generally aligned within one of the first 15 and second 16 ends of the elongated members 12, 14. A rotational axis of each of the

second pulleys 34 is orientated substantially parallel to the rotational axis of the first pulleys 32. A plurality of cables 36 couple the each of the first pulleys 32 to one of the second 34 pulleys.

5 A winch assembly 38 is attached to each of the cables 36 for selectively winding or unwinding each of the cables 36. The elongated members 12, 14 are lifted upwardly when the cables 36 are wound and lowered when the cables 36 are unwound. The winch assembly 38 may include a winch 40 and a pair of third pulleys 42 attached to the ceiling 9 and positioned generally adjacent to the winch 40. Each of the cables 36 includes a first end 37 attached to a fastener 35 on the ceiling 9 and extends through one each of the first 32, second 34 and third 42 pulleys and is then attached to the winch 40. Figure 3 depicts one method of winding a cable 36 around the first 32 and second 34 pulleys. It is preferred that each of the first 32, second 34 and third 42 pulleys are double block pulleys each having two pulley wheels therein. The winch 40 is preferably mounted on a mounting 46 and positioned at a level that is easily accessible by a user of the assembly 10. The winch 40 may be a manually or electrically powered winch.

20 In use, the elongated members 12, 14 are lowered to a position so that the cap 8 of a pickup truck may be slid onto the support panels 22 as shown in Figure 1. The support panels 22 may be moved depending on the size of truck cap 8. The winch 40 is used to wind the cables 36 to lift the 25 elongated members 12, 14 upwardly and the truck cap 8 therewith. The winch 40 may include a locking member for selectively preventing the rotation of the winch.

With respect to the above description then, it is to be realized that 30 the optimum dimensional relationships for the parts of the invention, to include variations in size, materials, shape, form, function and manner of

operation, assembly and use, are deemed readily apparent and obvious to one skilled in the art, and all equivalent relationships to those illustrated in the drawings and described in the specification are intended to be encompassed by the present invention.

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Therefore, the foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and 10 described, and accordingly, all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention.